



Questions and Answers from Group VIII Webinars (August 25th-26th, 2026)

Eligibility, Exemptions, and Program Scope

- Is Medicaid Alternative Benefit Plan (ABP) the same as Group VIII?
 - Yes. Medicaid ABP refers to the Group VIII eligibility category.
- Will we know if an individual is exempt based on information available in PNM?
 - PNM will not include information indicating whether an individual is exempt. Individuals who are exempt will receive notice at their time of application or renewal.
- Will PNM identify individuals who are required to meet these requirements?
 - PNM will display the individual's MAGI category but will not specifically identify whether the individual is a MAGI adult or indicate that the individual must meet the requirements.
- What is considered "recently released from incarceration"?
 - An individual is considered recently released if they were released within the last three months.
- Are veterans with less than a 100% disability rating exempt?
 - A veteran with less than a 100% disability rating is not automatically exempt under the veteran exemption. However, the individual may qualify under another exemption, including medical frailty, if they have a qualifying medical condition.
- If an individual is participating in a state program for people with disabilities, will that satisfy the requirement?
 - It depends on the specific program and the basis for eligibility.
 - If an individual has a disability and is already enrolled in Medicaid, ODM may already have an ICD-10 diagnosis code or other information to establish a medical frailty exemption.
 - For volunteer or work programs, documentation should identify the facility or organization and the hours completed to enable verification.

Medical Frailty and Clinical Documentation

- What is the general approach that ODM will take to verifying medical frailty?
 - At application, individuals who appear eligible for Group VIII coverage and have indicated that they are medically frail will need to provide documentation. This documentation will need to be from a doctor or other healthcare practitioner and indicate diagnoses for one or more condition that prevents the individual



from being able to work or complete other activities. Providers should include their license type, license number and Medicaid Provider ID (if applicable).

Diagnoses should be within the provider's scope of practice or specialty.

- People who are applying for Presumptive Eligibility will be able to self-attest to medical frailty but will subsequently be required to provide documentation when they complete the full Medicaid application.
- At renewal, most individuals who are medically frail will be verified automatically by ODM using claims data available to the department. In these cases, the recipient will not need to provide any additional documentation.
 - If someone cannot be verified based on claims data, they will have the opportunity to provide documentation similar to that required for new applicants.
- How will presumptive eligibility work with this new requirement? Are there any additional things that hospitals or other providers need to do during the presumptive eligibility process?
 - Qualified Entities will begin asking new questions as part of the presumptive eligibility process to verify exclusions from or compliance with the requirement for members who appear to be eligible under Group VIII (the MAGI Adult group). As with the current PE process, self-attestation will be accepted by Qualified Entities. Individuals granted PE status will still need to complete a full Medicaid application, which now includes the Work and Community Engagement requirement.
- Will there be a standard form for providers to complete to indicate medical frailty?
 - ODM will generally be able to verify medical frailty at renewals using claims data already in the Enterprise Data Warehouse (EDW). For new applicants or cases where claims haven't reached the EDW yet, ODM will accept provider documentation in a range of formats.
- Will all diagnoses listed on the claim be considered?
 - No, the claim must be the primary or secondary diagnosis. ODM will post all diagnosis codes that qualify as medical frailty.
- Could an individual be exempt based on claims from one provider but not exempt based on another provider?
 - If the individual has one claim with a diagnosis code indicating frailty, this will be sufficient to verify their exemption.
- Will ODM publish the ICD-10 codes that qualify for medical frailty?



- Yes. ODM plans to post the qualifying ICD-10 codes on its webpage. The specific timing for posting the codes has not yet been confirmed.
- Does documentation for a mental health or substance use disorder condition need to come from the prescribing provider?
 - Not necessarily. The documentation may come from a clinician whose license and scope of practice authorize them to provide the relevant evaluation or diagnosis. The determination will depend on the clinician's credentials and what they are authorized to do under their scope of practice.
- Does documentation for medical frailty have to be completed or signed by a physician, such as for DMV or SSA forms?
 - No. The documentation does not generally need to be completed or signed by a physician. It must come from a clinician who is authorized to diagnose or document the relevant condition within the scope of their license. This process is separate from DMV, SSA, and other program requirements.
 - For individuals already enrolled in Medicaid, ODM may use qualifying ICD-10 diagnoses from claims data during its ex parte review when available; clinician documentation will be especially important for new applicants or when claims data is unavailable.
- Will ODM publish a list of provider credentials that can be used to submit documentation?
 - ODM is considering how best to provide additional guidance. The key consideration is whether the clinician's license authorizes them to evaluate or diagnose the relevant condition; the documentation is not limited to physicians in every circumstance.
- Would an emergency room visit establish medical frailty?
 - Not necessarily. An emergency room visit alone would not establish medical frailty. The individual would need to meet the applicable medical frailty criteria, generally supported by a qualifying diagnosis or provider documentation.

Hospitalization and Hardship

- Will ODM recognize an inpatient stay or recent hospitalization as a short-term hardship exemption?



- Ohio is not currently implementing the optional short-term hardship exemption, including the exemption for hospitalization or other in-patient services.
- However, an individual who has been hospitalized and is receiving treatment for a qualifying medical condition may be exempt based on medical frailty. ODM will generally verify this using claims data or, when claims data is not yet available, provider documentation.

Substance Use Disorder Treatment

- What verification is required for an individual participating in substance use disorder (SUD) treatment?
 - ODM is not requiring a standard verification form at this time.
 - For individuals already enrolled in Medicaid, ODM may be able to electronically verify participation using information available in its claims system.
 - For new applicants, or when claims data is not yet available, ODM will need documentation noting the individual's health condition and participation in treatment.

Qualifying Activities and Workforce Programs

- Do virtual volunteering activities count?
 - It is unclear whether virtual activities would count; determining whether the activity qualifies as community service would depend on whether the specific activity and organization meet the requirements included in the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Interim Final Rule (IFC).
- Is ODM planning to use ServeOhio infrastructure?
 - ODM has not yet engaged with ServeOhio but plans to coordinate with the organization in the future to better understand what its infrastructure can offer.
- Do workforce readiness programs need to be approved by the state?
 - If a specific workforce readiness program is being considered, information about the program should be submitted to ODM.
 - ODM will determine whether the program is already recognized through the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), OhioMeansJobs, or another qualifying program. If it is not currently recognized, ODM will review the program to determine whether it may qualify.
- If only certain components of a workforce program qualify, which activities or hours will count?



- ODM does not currently plan to dissect individual components of workforce readiness programs.
- For example, assessment, vocational evaluation, job-readiness training, job search, job coaching, work-based learning, community work experience, and employer-based training are not presently expected to be evaluated separately.
- ODM may refine its approach as implementation experience develops.

Applications, Renewals, and Verification Submission

- Which activities and exemptions can generally be verified using data already available to ODM?
 - ODM expects to verify most individuals as being exempt or meeting the qualifying activities using data already available to the department.
 - The following exemptions can be automatically verified in many circumstances using data available to the department:
 - Current or former foster child under the age of 26
 - Parent, guardian, caretaker relative, or family caregiver of a dependent child 13 years of age and under
 - Medical frailty
 - Participation in TANF and/or SNAP and not exempt from work requirements under those programs
 - Participating in a drug or alcohol treatment and rehabilitation program
 - Incarcerated or released from incarceration within the last 3 months (for individuals who were incarcerated in a state-run facility)
 - Pregnant or entitled to postpartum medical assistance
 - Under the age of 19 or over the age of 64
 - Entitled to, or enrolled for Medicare Part A or enrolled in Medicare Part B
 - Eligible for Medicaid under a different coverage category
 - Qualifying activities:
 - Work can be verified using income data already available to ODM. Individuals with MAGI household income of at least \$580/month will be automatically verified by ODM. If the household income is less than \$580, then ODM will automatically calculate hours worked using the household income divided by federal minimum wage.



- ODM is considering implementation of additional data interfaces, including the National Student Clearinghouse, that will be used to verify additional qualifying activities.
- How will the six-month lookback apply to individuals with a January 2027 redetermination?
 - ODM will not begin renewals under this requirement until April 2027. Therefore, a January 2027 redetermination will be evaluated based on current eligibility rules.
 - Beginning in April, ODM will apply the WCER with a lookback period equal to the time since the individual's last renewal.
- Will individuals be able to submit verification electronically?
 - Yes. Individuals may mail verification, bring it to a local CDJFS office, or upload it through the Self-Service Portal (SSP).
- Who will review applications and renewals under these requirements?
 - County caseworkers will review applications and renewals using the existing processes.
 - Applications generally should be processed within 45 days, and renewals within 30 days. County caseworkers are being trained on the new requirements.
- How will retroactive coverage work in 2027?
 - Starting January 1, 2027, retroactive coverage for Group VIII is one month prior.

MCO Operations and Implementation

- When will MCOs receive the first monthly file identifying individuals who could not be verified using available data?
 - The first file was sent approximately three weeks ago, and another file will be sent soon.
 - MCOs that have not received the file should contact ODM.

Transportation

- Can Medicaid non-emergency medical transportation be used to travel to work, job training, or education?
 - No. Non-emergency medical transportation is intended for eligible medical transportation, such as office visits.
 - Individuals will need to make alternative transportation arrangements for work, job training, or educational activities.



Webinar Materials and Resources

- Will the webinar slides and other materials be available online?
 - Yes. ODM plans to post the webinar slides and related materials on its webpage and will distribute the link when available.